

Brodnick et al.

S/N 09/661,064

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 12 beginning at line 14 as follows:

a1 Referring to Fig. 4, a second embodiment of the present invention is disclosed. Again, patient 180 is connected to the ECG device 184, of the present invention, which preferably includes a 12-channel ECG device, such as the aforementioned GE Marquette MacVu or Secr-MC equipped with 12SL™. However, in this embodiment, the wireless communication device is an interactive Internet appliance such as an interactive Internet TV appliance 210, capable of allowing voice, video and ECG data transmission through an interconnected global computer system, such as the Internet 212. The ECG device 184 and the Internet TV appliance 210 transmits data therebetween through an infrared transmission 214. Accordingly, the ECG device 184 is equipped with an infrared transmitter and the Internet TV appliance is equipped with an infrared receiver, as described with reference to Fig. 1. The Internet TV appliance 210 can also receive data instructions from the centralized facility or health care provider 190 through the Internet TV appliance 210. The Internet TV appliance 210 is connected to a television 216 to display visual signals 218 and audio signals 220 to patient 180.

Please replace the first and second paragraphs on page 13 beginning at line 5 as follows:

a2 Preferably, the Internet TV appliance 210 is equipped with a video camera 222 and a microphone 224 to receive and transmit audio and video signals from patient 180 to the centralized facility 190. In this manner, the processor in the ECG device 184 is programmed to

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allow concurrent transmission of ECG data, voice data, and video data, wherein the video and audio transmissions may be bi-directional. That is, since the voice, video, and ECG signals are communicated in real time, or near real time, from the remote location 182 to the centralized facility 190, which may be a hospital, the centralized facility 190 is thereby equipped with a Internet computer 226 that is, in turn, connected to a television 228, also equipped with a microphone 230 and a video camera 232 to transmit images and audio from a doctor or clinician 240. Similar to the embodiment of Fig. 3, the doctor or clinician at the centralized facility 190, Fig. 4, can listen to and talk to the patient 180 remotely while observing the patient's ECG waveforms. Also similar to the embodiment of Fig. 3, the ECG/display 206 receives data from the local communication interface 226. If the data has already been processed, it can go directly to the printer 208, or if the ECG of the centralized facility is processing the data, the signals go through the ECG 206, then to the printer 208. The patient's file is then updated 204.

Referring to Fig. 5, a detailed flow chart of the software programmed into the portable ECG device is shown. Once the ECG is initiated 250, the program checks to see if the patient requests assistance with using the ECG device 252. If so 254, the auto-dial feature of the mobile phone is initiated or the Internet TV interface is prompted 256, at which time communication is permitted between the health care provider, or centralized facility, and the patient 258. Once the assistance is complete 260, or the patient did not require assistance 252, 262, the ECG signals are acquired 264, processed 266, and prepared for transmission at 268. The desired mode of transmission is then selected at 270 to allow concurrent transmission of ECG data and at least voice communication.

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Please replace the first paragraph on page 14 beginning at line 8 as follows:

Q3 If the Internet TV mode is selected 270, 272, the ECG transmits the data to the Internet TV device 274 and allows audiovisual communication 276. Conversely, if the wireless phone transmission mode is selected 270, 278, the auto-dial feature is enabled, if not already connected 280, and the ECG transmits the data at 282, thereby allowing bi-directional voice communication 284. At this point, regardless of whether the wireless phone transmission mode is selected 278 or the Internet TV mode is selected 272, the ECG device is enabled to receive instructions 286 from the centralized facility. If the ECG is instructed to acquire more data 288, 290 the process is repeated. If not 288, 292, the ECG subroutine is complete 294.

Please replace the second paragraph on page 16 beginning at line 11 as follows:

Q4 With the use of an Internet TV appliance, the centralized facility can be relatively assured that the patient is located at the patient's house during use. However, the same cannot be said for the wireless phone transmission mode. In this instance, the method can include confirming a location of the patient before dispatching emergency personnel. This can be done through telephone communication, but if the patient should experience a heart attack and become unconscious, an alternative method must be provided. In this instance, the confirmation step includes receiving a GPS guidance signal from the ECG device indicative of the location of the patient. Accordingly, the ECG device optionally includes a GPS guidance system. The guidance system is initialized by the centralized facility which sends the GPS initialization signal to the ECG device, and once received, the ECG device transmits a GPS guidance signal from the